

stood out for me was the levee systems in Montana, Arizona, and California. A lot of these are levees, dikes, and dams that are different from the river levees that we see. But look at Pittsburgh, New York, North Dakota, Montana, Washington. There is not a place in this country—not on the coast, not on the interior—that doesn't have a threat of flooding. Either a levee can break, a dam can break, a river can overflow, or there can be flash flooding because of droughts. Even in Texas where there is a lot of flash flooding. So not only on the coast, but inland as well, in Kansas.

The conclusion is this is a real challenge for our whole Nation. We have a bill led by Senator MENENDEZ and Senator ISAKSON that costs and scores zero. We have written this bill in a way that just postpones these draconian rate increases so we can take a little more time to study it, do some modeling, and get it right. This bill was passed with very good intentions, but prematurely, without the data we need to make smart decisions for our communities. This is giving us time to get it right. There is zero cost the way this bill is structured.

Again, I appreciate the courtesies of our leader managing this bill on the floor.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:48 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. BALDWIN).

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the time until 4 p.m. be for debate only, with the time being equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, I hope Members will now come down and debate, particularly if we can start off again with the legislation on Guantanamo. There will be two amendments here. One will be an amendment by Senator AYOTTE and the other one would be an amendment by myself, with Senator MCCAIN. It will be a Levin-McCain amendment. I hope those who are interested in this subject particularly would come down between now and then and we can perhaps even reach a vote on Guantanamo, the two amendments, side-by-side, even later this afternoon. That is the goal. It is not part of the unanimous consent proposal, but that would be a goal.

I know my friend from Oklahoma and I are able to work things out most often, and we will try to figure out a way to hopefully get to a vote on two amendments which I think everybody agrees, not on the outcome of the vote, but agrees need to be debated and resolved.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, first of all, let me say I appreciate all the help the chairman has given us during the course of this very difficult time. I also suggest we have gone through this same thing other years in the past.

One of the things is there are so many people demanding or wanting to have a system where we could have more amendments. I encourage anyone who has amendments to go ahead and send them to the floor. It doesn't do any good to talk about them unless you have them down here and in front of us. Then I hope the chairman and I could get together and we could have, actually, more amendments. Those people who want to be heard on this, we have adopted this timing, so we encourage you to come down and be heard.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, I thank my friend from Oklahoma because he has said what needs to be said here, which is that we welcome amendments being brought to the floor. We will do our best to try to clear those amendments, which means obviously consulting with not just the sponsors but potential opponents to try to see if we can work things out. On this bill we have always been able to work out amendments, sometimes as many as 100. We need to have votes on this bill, but we also can clear amendments. We work together on a bipartisan basis to do that.

I join in his request that Senators who have amendments get them to us to see if we can possibly work them out. We simply must finish this bill this week. The timetable is such that if we are going to finish this bill, as we have for 51 straight years, we have to get this bill to conference. That, in and of itself, will take a week. Then we have to bring the conference report back, if we can reach an agreement on it, to both Houses, and that will take as much as a week as well under the rules, so we really need the cooperation of every Member of this body.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I rise at this point to discuss Wicker amendment No. 2185. This is an important amendment. I hope the leadership of this committee is paying attention. My amendment would prohibit foreign governments from constructing, on U.S. soil, satellite positioning and ground monitoring stations. I think

many Americans were surprised when, on November 16, the New York Times published an article by Michael Schmidt and Eric Schmitt entitled "A Russian GPS Using U.S. Soil Stirs Spy Fears."

I ask unanimous consent a copy of this article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the New York Times, Nov. 16, 2013]

A RUSSIAN GPS USING U.S. SOIL STIRS SPY FEARS

(By Michael S. Schmidt and Eric Schmitt)

WASHINGTON.—In the view of America's spy services, the next potential threat from Russia may not come from a nefarious cyberweapon or secrets gleaned from the files of Edward J. Snowden, the former National Security Agency contractor now in Moscow.

Instead, this menace may come in the form of a seemingly innocuous dome-topped antenna perched atop an electronics-packed building surrounded by a security fence somewhere in the United States.

In recent months, the Central Intelligence Agency and the Pentagon have been quietly waging a campaign to stop the State Department from allowing Roscosmos, the Russian space agency, to build about half a dozen of these structures, known as monitor stations, on United States soil, several American officials said.

They fear that these structures could help Russia spy on the United States and improve the precision of Russian weaponry, the officials said. These monitor stations, the Russians contend, would significantly improve the accuracy and reliability of Moscow's version of the Global Positioning System, the American satellite network that steers guided missiles to their targets and thirsty smartphone users to the nearest Starbucks.

"They don't want to be reliant on the American system and believe that their systems, like GPS, will spawn other industries and applications," said a former senior official in the State Department's Office of Space and Advanced Technology. "They feel as though they are losing a technological edge to us in an important market. Look at everything GPS has done on things like your phone and the movement of planes and ships."

The Russian effort is part of a larger global race by several countries—including China and European Union nations—to perfect their own global positioning systems and challenge the dominance of the American GPS.

For the State Department, permitting Russia to build the stations would help mend the Obama administration's relationship with the government of President Vladimir V. Putin, now at a nadir because of Moscow's granting asylum to Mr. Snowden and its backing of President Bashar al-Assad of Syria.

But the C.I.A. and other American spy agencies, as well as the Pentagon, suspect that the monitor stations would give the Russians a foothold on American territory that would sharpen the accuracy of Moscow's satellite-steered weapons. The stations, they believe, could also give the Russians an opening to snoop on the United States within its borders.

The squabble is serious enough that administration officials have delayed a final decision until the Russians provide more information and until the American agencies sort out their differences, State Department and White House officials said.